## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-04 INR-05 LAB-01

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 L-01 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-04 DRC-01

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R 190730Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3151

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL STOCKHOLM 4686

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PO, XZ, SW

SUBJECT: PALME TO LEAD SOCDEM DELEGATION TO PORTUGAL

REF: (A) OSLO 4663; (B) STOCKHOLM 490; (C) STOCKHOLM 4491 (D) LISBON 4518.

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS (THYBERG) CONFIRMED REPORT THAT PRIME MINISTER PALME WILL HEAD SCANDINAVIAN DELEGATION TO PORTUGAL OCTOBER 26-27 (REF A). OFFICIAL EMPHASIZED THAT PALME WOULD BE GOING NOT AS PRIME MINISTER OF SWEDEN BUT IN HIS ROLE AS CHAIRMAN OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY. SWEDISH MEMBERS OF DELEGATION, IN ADDITION TO PALME, WILL BE PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL STEN ANDERSSON AND LO PRESIDENT GUNNAR NILSSON.

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2. THYBERG SAID HE WAS "ASTONISHED" WHEN HE HEARD OF PLANNED VISIT PREVIOUS EVENING FROM SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONTACT, SINCE IDEA OF PALME VISITING PORTU) #-\$ ,95 ?33, \$8 :7 3\$ 8, \*-. THYBERG STRESSED THAT VISIT WAS PURELY "PARTY AFFAIR" AIMED AT BUILDING UP PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) AND TRADE UNION MOVEMENT IN THAT COUNTRY. WHEN POLITICAL COUNSELOR DESCRIBED SWEDISH ABILITY TO DIVORCE A POLITICAL LEADER'S GOVERNMENT ROLE FROM HIS PARTY FUNCTION AS INTRIGUING, THYBERG REPLIE D THAT THIS SPLITTING OF ROLES "INTRIGUES MANY OF US IN THE MFA AS WELL."

3. COMMENT: PALME VISIT TO PORTUGAL TIES IN WITH SWEDISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC INTEREST IN ASSISTING PS AS EXPRESSED TO ME LAST WEEK BY PRIME MINIYER'S AIDE (REF B). SWEDISH LEADER-SHIP IS WELL AWARE OF UNCERTAIN SITUATION PREVAILING IN PORTUGAL AND OF NEED TO BOLSTER SOARES AND PS. WHILE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC RHETORIC MAY CITE RATIONAL FOR SUCH AID AS BEING FEAR OF PORTUGUESE TURN IN "FASCIST DIRECTION" (REF A), MY READING OF SITUATION IS THAT SCANDINAVIAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS ARE CONCERNED LEST PROTUGAL MOVE TOWARDS A LEFTWING MILITARY DICTATORSHIP ALONG THE PERUVIAN MODEL IF SOCIALISTS LOSE OUT IN STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF LABOR MOVEMENT. VISIT TO PORTUGAL BY PALME ALSO ACCORDS WITH PRIME MINISTER'S INTEREST INPROMOTING SMALL POWER COOPERATION TO COUNTER ALLEGED DANGERS TO SMALL NATIONS ARISING FROM SUPERPOWER CONDOMINIUM (REF C). PORTUGUESE TRIP WILL FOLLOW BY ONLY A FEW DAYS THE PRIME MINISTER'S MEETINGS WITH TRUDEAU IN OTTAWA AND PRECEDES BY SOME WEEKS A VISIT TO ALGIERS AS WELL AS A BRIEF STOPOVER IN PARIS FOR A MEETING WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING. TRIP TO PORTUGAL AS LEADER OF SCANDINAVIAN DELEGATION WILL UNDOUBETEDLY CONTRIBUTE TO PALME'S IMAGE AS DE FACTO SPOKESMAN OF SMALL POWER MOVEMENT.

IT STRIKES ME THW SWEDISH--AND SCANDINAVIAN-SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC ASSISTANCE TO THE PS AND THE
PORTUGUESE LABOR MOVEMENT WOULD SEEM TO ACCORD WITH US
INTERESTS, TO THE EXTENT IT STRENGTHENS THE SOCIALISTS AND
NON-COMMUNIST LABOR MOVEMENT IN PORTUGAL. THEREFORE, AS SUGGESTED
BY EMBASSY LISBON (REF D), WE ARE INDICATING TO SWEDISH DELEGATION
THAT WE WELCOME THIS INITIATIVE. STRAUSZ-HUPE
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## Message Attributes

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Type: TE

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